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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION OF OBSERVERS IN TAJIKISTAN

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ihor V. HUMENNY (Ukraine)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1996, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 56th, 57th and 70th meetings, on 12 and 13 May and 6 June 1997. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/51/SR.56, 57 and 70).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General (A/51/784 and Add.1 and 2) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/51/850).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/51/L.65

4. At the 70th meeting, on 6 June, the Rapporteur introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan" (A/C.5/51/L.65), submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/51/L.65 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan,[1] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[2] and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services,[3]

Recalling Security Council resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission of Observers, the latest of which was resolution 1099 (1997) of 14 March 1997,

Recalling also its resolution 49/240 of 31 March 1995 on the financing of the Mission of Observers and its resolution 50/238 of 7 June 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission of Observers are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission of Observers, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission of Observers,

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[1] A/51/784 and Add.1 and 2.

[2] A/51/850.

[3] A/51/432, annex.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission of Observers with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 2,508,489 United States dollars, representing 13 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission of Observers to the period ending 15 June 1997, notes that some 13 per cent of Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission of Observers in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[2] and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;[3]

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission of Observers is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan the amount of 8,275,700 dollars gross (7,721,300 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission of Observers for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 308,000 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, to be assessed on Member States at a monthly rate of 689,642 dollars gross (643,442 dollars net) in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998,[4]

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[4] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 15 June 1997;

8. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 554,400 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

9. Decides further that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission of Observers, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 1,548,000 dollars gross (1,402,800 dollars net) in respect of the period from 17 June to 15 December 1995;

10. Decides that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission of Observers, their share of the unencumbered balance of 1,548,000 dollars gross (1,402,800 dollars net) for the period from 17 June to 15 December 1995 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

11. Decides also that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission of Observers, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 1,312,200 dollars gross (1,260,800 dollars net) in respect of the period from 16 December 1995 to 30 June 1996;

12. Decides further that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission of Observers, their share of the unencumbered balance of 1,312,200 dollars gross (1,260,800 dollars net) for the period from 16 December 1995 to 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

13. Invites voluntary contributions to the Mission of Observers in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

14. Invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established in accordance with paragraph 13 of Security Council resolution 968 (1994);

15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan".